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NEW PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO

Newly appointed Resident General--Francis
Lacoste--arrived French Morocco 14 June.

- A. Lacoste inherits bitter legacy hate,
distrust left by two military predecessors
- B. Appointment is Paris attempt re-establish
order, French-Moroccan co-operation after
9 months' anti-French terrorism.
- C. Lacoste able career diplomat; long, wide
experience, including Morocco (number
two man French Residency 1947-1950,
under Marshal Juin).
- D. Staunch advocate French position Morocco,
but personally favors moderate policy:
intends "iron hand in silken glove."



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B. However, no change sultan anticipated near future.

C. Lacoste first steps include:

1. Conference some elements Moroccan nationalists he invited Paris.
2. Proposal granting clemency national political prisoners.

III. Prospects appear dim, since program fails indicate new, bold policy needed promote real settlement.

A. Too vague--no specific concessions yet indicated.

B. Fails specify final relationship of this factor--both which primary ~~nationalist~~ objectives.

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Issue of French role in local government

enforced on 50-50 basis by August 1953

reforms and immediate cause ouster

former sultan--remains major stumbling

block for both nationalists and French

settlers.

D. Return former sultan remains major
nationalist objective.

E. Meanwhile, local reaction initial
Lacoste proposals bitter both sides.

1. French veterans organization

Casablanca condemn Lacoste's alleged
amnesty plan and intent negotiate
with nationalists as "criminal and
treasonable."

2. On 12 June, veterans' office wrecked
by bombs.

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at Berber, El Glaoui. ~~Extremely~~

anti-nationalist Pasha Vazzakh and
principal native engineer Sultan's
deposition hints that friends of
France in Morocco will not give
Lacoste confidence in a
clemency to nationalists.

4. Nationalists in turn now expanding
terrorism to include crop burning--
burned 115 acres grain in past week.

F. American observers Morocco convinced
drastic measures required to restore
co-operation; agree minimum necessary:

1. Replace sultan with someone acceptable
Moroccans.
2. Release nationalist prisoners, as
only ones who command respect
Moroccans.
3. French negotiation with established
nationalist leaders.

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